

CLAIMS

1. An article of manufacture, comprising a needle-punched fiber mat that contains a particulate adhesive embedded within the fiber mat.

2. An article of manufacture, comprising a building material that has been manufactured by heated compression of a needle-punched fiber mat that contained, prior to the heated compression step, a particulate adhesive embedded within the fiber mat.

3. A method of manufacturing a building material, comprising the following steps:

- a. embedding a particulate adhesive within a fibrous layer that is being created on a conveyor system;
- b. compressing the fibrous layer; and,
- c. subjecting the fibrous layer to a needle-punching operation.